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Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving information about a recognized phrase from a speech engine utilizing a first application programming interface at a speech service separate from the speech engine, the speech service including instructions to communicate with a plurality of application programming interfaces including the first application programming interface; and

automatically selecting, based on the recognized phrase, a handler function from among multiple sets of handling information, each set of handling information being associated with a different application, and loading a first grammar for a first application that is automatically selected on the speech engine separate from the first application and loading a second, different grammar for a second automatically recognized application on the speech engine, the speech engine separate from the second application.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

identifying an application that is a focus of the recognized phrase, selecting the handler function being further based on the identified application.

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3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein selecting a handler function comprises:

selecting a set of handling information based on the identified application; and

selecting a handler function from the selected set of handling information based on the recognized phrase.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 further comprising, prior to receiving the recognized phrase:

locating the sets of handling information.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein each of the sets of handling information is located when the execution of the associated application is initiated.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising: detecting a change of the focus from a first application to a second application;

producing a second grammar based on the handling information associated with the second application; and loading the second grammar onto the speech engine.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising:

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generating an uncompiled grammar based on the handling information; and

compiling the grammar into a binary format.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising, prior to the step of loading the second grammar:

unloading a first grammar associated with the first application from the speech engine.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising: directing an operating system to provide notification in response to the focus changing;

wherein the step of determining when the focus changes includes receiving notification from an operating system.

10. (Original) The method of claim 5 further comprising: directing an operating system to provide notification whenever the execution of an application is initiated;

wherein each set of handling information is located when the notification is provided.

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11. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising:
storing the produced grammar; and
loading the stored grammar onto the speech engine when the focus is changed from a third application to the second application.

12. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-readable medium which stores machine-executable instructions, the instructions causing a machine to:

receive information about a recognized phrase from a speech engine utilizing a first application programming interface at a speech service separate from the speech engine, wherein the speech service includes instructions to communicate with a plurality of application programming interfaces including the first application programming interface; and

select, based on the recognized phrase, a handler function from sets of handling information, each set of handling information being associated with a different application and loading a first grammar for a first application that is automatically selected on the speech engine separate from the first application and loading a second, different grammar for a second automatically recognized application on the speech engine, the speech engine separate from the second application.

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13. (Original) The article of claim 12, wherein the instruction further cause the machine to:

identify an application that is a focus of the recognized phrase, selecting the handler function being further based on the identified application.

14. (Original) The article of claim 13 wherein selecting a handler function comprises:

selecting a set of handling information based on the identified application; and

selecting a handler function from the selected set of handling information based on the recognized phrase.

15. (Original) The article of claim 14 wherein the instructions further cause the machine, prior to receiving the recognized phrase, to:

locate sets of handling information, each of the sets of handling information being associated with a different application.

16. (Original) The article of claim 15 wherein each of the sets of handling information is located when the execution of the associated application is initiated.

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17. (Original) The article of claim 15 wherein the instructions further cause the machine to:

detect a change of the focus from a first application to a second application;

produce a second grammar based on the handling information associated with the second application; and

load the second grammar onto the speech engine.

18. (Original) The article of claim 14 wherein the instructions further cause the machine to:

generate an uncompiled grammar based on the handling information; and

compile the grammar into a binary format.

19. (Original) The article of claim 17 wherein the instructions, prior to the step of loading the second grammar, further cause the machine to:

unload a first grammar associated with the first application from the speech engine.

20. (Original) The article of claim 17 wherein the instructions further cause the machine to:

direct an operating system to provide notification in response to the focus changing;

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wherein the step of determining when the focus is changed includes receiving notification from an operating system that the focus has been changed.

21. (Original) The article of claim 16 wherein the instructions further cause the machine to:

direct an operating system to provide notification whenever the execution of an application is initiated;

wherein each set of handling information is located when the notification is provided.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a memory which stores computer readable instructions;

a processor which executes the computer readable instructions, the instructions causing the processor to:

receive information about a recognized phrase from a speech engine utilizing a first application programming interface at a speech service separate from the speech engine, the speech service including instructions to communicate with a plurality of application programming interfaces including the first application programming interface;

identify an application that is a focus of the recognized phrase; and

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select a handler function based on the recognized phrase and the application that is the focus of the phrase and loading a first grammar for a first application that is automatically selected on the speech engine separate from the first application and loading a second, different grammar for a second automatically recognized application on the speech engine, the speech engine separate from the second application.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein selecting a handler function comprises:

selecting a set of handling information from the sets of handling information based on the identified application; and
selecting a handler function from the selected set of handling information based on the recognized phrase.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the instructions further cause the processor, prior to receiving the recognized phrase, to:

locate the sets of handling information, each of the sets of handling information being associated with a different application.

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25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein each of the sets of handling information is located when the execution of the associated application is initiated.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the instructions further cause the processor to:

detect a change of the focus from a first application to a second application;

produce a second grammar based on the handling information associated with the second application; and

load the second grammar onto the speech engine.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the instructions further cause the processor to:

generate an uncompiled grammar based on the handling information; and

compile the grammar into a binary format.

28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein, prior to the step of loading the second grammar, the instructions further cause the processor to:

unload a first grammar associated with the first application from the speech engine.

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29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the instructions further cause the processor to:

direct an operating system to provide notification in response to the focus changing;

wherein the step of determining when the focus is changed includes receiving notification from an operating system that the focus has been changed.

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the instructions further cause the processor to:

direct an operating system to provide notification whenever the execution of an application is initiated;

wherein each set of handling information is located when the notification is provided.

31. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein said receiving comprises receiving information about a recognized phrase that includes a wildcard portion which is filled in with a parameter from a selected application.

32. (Previously Presented) An article as in claim 12, wherein said receiving comprises receiving information about a recognized phrase that includes a wildcard portion which is filled in with a parameter from a selected application.

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33. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 22, wherein the processor receives the information about the recognized phrase, that includes a wildcard portion which is filled with a parameter from a selected application.

34. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising, prior to receiving the information about the recognized phrase from the speech engine, determining whether a speech handler file including a first set of handling information associated with the first application is embedded within an executable of the first application.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising, if the first set of handling information associated with the first application is not embedded within the executable of the first application, determining whether the speech handler file including the first set of handling information associated with the first application is stored within the same directory as the executable of the first application.

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36. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the instructions to communicate with a plurality of application programming interfaces including the first application programming interface include instructions for communicating with each of a SAPI application programming interface and a JSAPI application programming interface.

37 (New) The article of claim 12, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions to, prior to receiving the information about the recognized phrase from the speech engine, determine whether a speech handler file including a first set of handling information associated with the first application is embedded within an executable of the first application.

38. (New) The article of claim 37, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions to determine, if the first set of handling information associated with the first application is not embedded within the executable of the first application, whether the speech handler file including the first set of handling information associated with the first

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application is stored within the same directory as the executable of the first application.

39. (New) The article of claim 12, wherein the instructions to communicate with a plurality of application programming interfaces including the first application programming interface include instructions to communicate with each of a SAPI application programming interface and a JSAPI application programming interface.

40. (New) The system of claim 22, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions to, prior to receiving the information about the recognized phrase from the speech engine, determine whether a speech handler file including a first set of handling information associated with the first application is embedded within an executable of the first application.

41. (New) The system of claim 40, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions to, if the first set of handling information associated with the first application is

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not embedded within the executable of the first application, determine whether the speech handler file including the first set of handling information associated with the first application is stored within the same directory as the executable of the first application,

42. (New) The system of claim 22, wherein the instructions to communicate with a plurality of application programming interfaces including the first application programming interface include instructions to communicate with each of a SAPI application programming interface and a JSAPI application programming interface.